

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2022

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Stephanie Peters, Chair (absent)
David Twombly, Vice Chair (present)
Kyle Conley, Secretary (present)
Liliana Hedrick, Member (present)
Ernest Minelli, Member (present)

HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS REPRESENTATIVES

Judith Kuehn, Superintendent of Schools
Diane Saniuk, School Business Administrator
Maggie Ollerhead, Secretary to the Superintendent

1.0 Call to Order

The School Committee meeting was called to order by David Twombly, Vice Chair at 6:31 p.m. in the Hull High School Exhibition Room.

- 2.0 **Motion:** Ernest Minelli **Second:** Kyle Conley
Move to approve the Monday, December 12, 2022 agenda.
Vote: 4-0-0

- 3.0 Input from Public on Agenda Items
None

- 4.0 Student Representative Report
None

- 5.0 Hull Teachers Association Representative Report
None

- 6.0 Approval of Minutes
Motion: Kyle Conley **Second:** Liliana Hedrick
Move to approve the following minutes as presented:
• Monday, November 14 Retreat
Vote: 4-0-0

7.0 Superintendents Business Items

7.1 VFW Patriot's Pen Winning Essays

Mr. Kevin Beck, Commander of Hull VFW Post 1787 introduced the three winners of the VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contest. Each winner read their essays. Third place winner, Luisa Rizzo also received a \$200 scholarship. Second place winner, Libby Harper also received a \$300 scholarship and first place winner, Colin English received a \$500 scholarship and his essay was submitted to move up to the district level. He could potentially move on to Massachusetts level and then nationals.

Mr. Knybel awarded an AP Scholar certificate to the parent of Parry Harper, who is away at college.

7.2 MCAS Target Strategies for Improvement, Indicators for Success

Ms. Christine Cappadona, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, presented the District MCAS Follow-up Goals 2022-2023, which included the following:

- Goal #1: Analyze data to make instructional shifts as needed to close achievement gaps and improve student outcomes in K-12.
 - Key Actions in Analyzing Data
 - Key Actions for Improving Student Outcomes
- Goal #2: Increase MCAS Participation at each grade level
 - Key Actions for Increasing MCAS Participation
 - Indicator(s) for Success
- Goal #3: Increase Student Attendance
 - Key Actions to Increase Student Attendance
 - Indicator(s) for Success

Committee members asked questions and made comments.

7.3 Best Educational Use of School Facilities – Reconfiguration Possibilities

Ms. Kuehn stated that we have been working on this project for many years and have had presentations from the MARS group, other presentations, surveys, forums and the Ad Hoc Committee. Ms. Kuehn stated that, with the declining enrollment, there are only 770 students in our district now. She said a letter was sent to MSBA letting them know in advance. She also said she and the School Committee chair and vice chair have been in contact with our attorney to look into our MOU enforceability. She said the last few things are up in the air right now. She said that what will be presented tonight are just possibilities and ideas and she knows there are more ideas but that would be getting into the weeds right now. Ms. Kuehn introduced high school principal, Michael Knybel and elementary school principal, Kyle Shaw, who presented a Pre-K-7 and 8-12 school configuration model, which included the following:

- Preliminary Thoughts/Plans/Ideas/Possibilities
- Reconfiguration Agenda
- Introduction
- Jacobs School
 - Location and Supervision
 - Academic Experiences and Opportunities
 - SEL Experiences and Opportunities
- Hull High School
 - Location and Supervision
 - Academic Experiences and Opportunities
 - SEL Experiences and Opportunities
- Closing Remarks

Ms. Kuehn said she would be presenting the same information on Wednesday to the Memorial School staff at their faculty meeting. Committee members asked questions and made comments, mostly related to traditions, both new and old. Mr. Twombly said he wanted a conversation with the town manager so we are not going down a rabbit hole. Mr. Twombly asked Ms. Kuehn when she would want to this transition, in which Ms. Kuehn replied, next school year, fall of 2023. Ms. Kuehn continued stating we would have one year with 5th grade staying at the Jacobs as sixth graders. She

stated town hall may need to look at the space along with the collaborative, who would have to know what would happen with the space. Mr. Twombly said he thinks there needs to be a lot of decisions in January and February and the town needs to give us direction here. Ms. Kuehn said we are ready to go as soon as we get the word. Mr. Twombly said, in this case, we don't need the town's blessing we just go back to the status quo. Ms. Kuehn agreed. Mr. Minelli added, what I come back to is the spirit of the Ad Hoc Committee. That committee came to the conclusion that this was the best use for our students. He said if we let our parents know that we have plans and we set the tone and do right by the collaborative and to our students and community. Mr. Minelli said I think we have an opportunity to seize the moment and it can be done over a two-year cycle. Ms. Conley stated that the committee put it in writing, and we could at our next meeting take an official vote and move forward, as long as it gives us more time. Mr. Twombly said he thinks the first step is with 5th grade and as long as it goes well we could do it. Ms. Conley said she thinks what we are hearing is that it is in the best interest of our students. Mr. Twombly said there are a lot of positives, including foreign language, theater, etc. He asked that it be put on the January 9th agenda. He thanked Mr. Knybel and Mr. Shaw, saying they did a great job and brought up a lot of positive reasons why it is advantageous. Ms. Conley added, and put our minds to rest.

8.0 School Committee Policy Issues
None

9.0 Old Business Items
None

10.0 New Business
Mr. Twombly said this is the time of year when we should all be vigilant about colds, flu and COVID. Ms. Kuehn stated that she and Ms. Ollerhead have a plan on how to distribute COVID test kits. Mr. Twombly also said that we could always wear masks if necessary.

11.0 Correspondence to and Comments from School Committee Members
Mr. Twombly congratulated everyone affiliated with the football team and said it was exciting to see the team win. Mr. Knybel stated that some of the football players have been accepted to colleges and universities including, Williams and Trinity and there have been college reps in the building every day since the Superbowl. He said it is an excellent thing for the whole town. He also said there will be a congratulatory parade on Sunday. Ms. Hedrick read the flyer regarding the parade.

Ms. Kuehn stated that she is looking into the possibility of a second full-day preschool program. She said the current full-day students are attending gym and lunch and tech classes. She said we really have to follow the date but were sending a survey to see if parents are interested in attending a full-day program for 3 year-olds.

Ms. Conley asked that we talk about tracking the ESSER funds that are going to end, at a future meeting.

12.0 Adjournment

Motion: Kyle Conley

Second: Liliana Hedrick

Move to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm.

Vote: 4-0-0

Attachments:

1. MCAS Target Strategies for Improvement, Indicators for Success
2. Best Educational Use of School Facilities – Reconfiguration Possibilities

These Minutes of a meeting of the
Hull School Committee were
approved and adopted by the
Committee on January 9, 2023.

Kyle Conley, Secretary
Hull School Committee